



CRAVEN
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Craven Local Plan.

Craven District Council. Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

Approach to:

- Objectively Assessed Housing Need (OAHN),
- Objectively Assessed Employment Need (OAEN),
- Apportionment between Craven District Council and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, and
- Strategy Alignment

Memorandum of Understanding

1. Introduction

1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out the positions of Craven District Council (CDC) and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) regarding:

- Treatment of the OAHN) and OAEN in Craven District;
- Apportionment of the OAHN and OAEN between CDC and the YDNPA as planning authorities for the whole of Craven District; and
- Alignment of the overall planning strategies particularly in terms of settlements that are bisected by or proximate to the National Park boundary.

1.2 This MOU identifies areas where there is agreement between CDC and the YDNPA and where there is not. In turn, this approach and agreement informs preparation of the Craven Local Plan, and provides evidence of on-going engagement between CDC and the YDNPA under the provisions of the Duty to Cooperate. The Yorkshire Dales Local Plan has been examined and adopted.

2. Background and Context

OAHN, OAEN, Housing, and Employment Land Evidence

- 2.1 The starting point for consideration is the evidence base. In this regard, CDC initially commissioned an update to the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) for Craven in 2015, along with an Employment Land Review (ELR), which was undertaken separately. The SHMA was updated again in November 2016 due to the release of 2014 Sub National Population Projections (SNPP). Due to the geographies of housing markets, the SHMA considered the entire Craven District as a single housing market in its' own right.
- 2.2 The 2015 SHMA identified an OAHN for the whole of Craven District of 290 dwellings pa for the period 2012-2032. Of the 290 dwellings pa for the District, additional work undertaken by Edge Analytics determined that 256 dwellings pa be directed towards the district outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and 34 dwellings pa within. The apportionment of the OAHN was not agreed with the YDNPA, and the matter was examined by the Inspector into the YDNPA local plan. The Inspector concluded that disaggregation (apportionment) was not necessary for soundness.
- 2.3 The release of the 2014 Sub-National Population Projections gave rise to the need for a review of the OAHN arising from an update of the SHMA, which was undertaken in 2016. The 2016 SHMA update identified an OAHN of 214 dwellings pa for Craven District, of which 182 was directed to the District outside the YDNP and 32 pa within. The ELR which takes account of the revised OAHN identified that 26-29 Hectares of employment land is required for Craven District for the period to 2032. The findings of the 2016 SHMA and ELR were considered by the Council Spatial Planning Sub Committee (SPSC) and Policy Committee in November/December 2016 and the SPSC considered a Craven Local Plan: Housing Growth Option Paper in June 2017. The latter concluded that the housing requirement for the Craven Local Plan should be 214 dpa.

- 2.4 In response to representations received during consultation on a pre-publication draft plan the following evidence documents were updated/published:
- SHMA (Nov 2017) and Employment Land Review(Nov 2017) (alignment of housing and employment forecasts/market signals uplift/higher rates of younger age groups household formation); and
 - publication of more recent data: (ONS mid year estimates; REM jobs growth forecast March 2017; OBR Economic Activity Rates)
- 2.5 The SHMA and ELR were updated subsequently. The outcome of the additional work is to:
- Increase the District's OAN to 242 dwellings per annum (from 214 dpa)
 - Increase the Plan areas OAN to 204 dpa (from 182 dpa)
- 2.6 A Housing Growth Options Paper: Addendum November 2017 assesses these latest figures as new Housing Growth Options, along with a higher figure of 280 dpa.
- 2.7 This paper rejects all the above and concludes that 230 dpa should be the Craven Local Plan's housing requirement. This will more than meet the Plan Area OAN.

Strategy Alignment

- 2.8 As part of the preparation of the Craven and YDNP local plans, there has been broad alignment of respective local plan strategies particularly with regard to settlements bisected by the YDNP boundary or in proximity to it. This is reflected in table 1 of the adopted YDNP local plan and table 2 of the publication draft Craven local plan.
- 2.9 Both strategies recognise the roles and functions of bisected settlements as service centres and hubs that serve a wider hinterland beyond the boundaries of the Craven plan area.

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3. Understanding between Parties, cooperation and on-going engagement.

OAHN, OAEN and Apportionment

- 3.1 With regard to the housing OAHN arising from the 2016 SHMA and 2017 update, the following has been agreed between CDC and the YDNPA:
- That 230 dwellings pa is an appropriate housing requirement for the Craven Local Plan (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park)
- 3.2 With regard to the employment OAEN arising from the ELR, the following has been agreed between CDC and the YDNPA:
- That 27-32 Hectares of employment land is the identified employment OAEN for Craven District; and
 - The OAEN is to be accommodated in Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Strategy Alignment

- 3.3 With regard to strategy alignment, the following has been agreed between CDC and the YDNPA:
- That the settlement hierarchies set out at:
 - Policies SP3 and table 1 of the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan; and
 - Policy SP4 and Table 2 of the Publication draft Craven Local Plan;

Broadly align and complement each other, particularly in terms of approaches to the roles and functions of bisected settlements.

- 3.4 It is agreed that this forms an appropriate basis for plan making.

Signed on behalf of Yorkshire Dales
National Park Authority

Signed on behalf of Craven District
Council

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